

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 SY-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FBO-02 A-01 OPR-02 /067 W

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R 051135Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 412

USIA WASHDC

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IN

SUBJ: JULY 8 DEMONSTRATION BEFORE USIS LIBRARY

REF: NEW DELHI 9189

1. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL CALLED IN A/DCM AUGUST 2 TO REPLY TO EMBASSY'S PROTEST JULY 9, DELHI 9189 AND EXPRESSED GOI REGRET AT UNFORTUNATE DEMONSTRATION BEFORE USIS LIBRARY JULY 8. HE SAID THAT EMBASSY AND USIS HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE DEMONSTRATION BECAUSE MEA ITSELF HAD NOT BEEN FOREWARNED. AT THE SAME TIME, HE OBSERVED, IT HAD NOT REALLY BEEN VERY SERIOUS DEMONSTRATION AND LITTLE DAMAGE HAD BEEN DONE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT "THE DEMONSTRATORS" WERE BEING CHARGED WITH UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY BY THE POLICE. HE WAS NOT ABLE TO IDENTIFY HOW MANY DEMONSTRATORS WERE BEING CHARGED, OR WHETHER THE LEADERS (WHICH INCLUDED THE ALL-INDIA YOUTH CONGRESS PRESIDENT) WERE BEING ARRAIGNED.

2. ADCM SAID THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE CASES AGAINST THOSE BEING CHARGED AND WHETHER THE LEADERS WERE INCLUDED. HE NOTED THAT THE QUANTUM OF DAMAGE WAS INDEED NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GREAT BUT THE EMBASSY WOULD IN DUE COURSE NEVERTHELESS

SUBMIT THE BILL TO THE MINISTRY. THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL WAS NOT HAPPY WITH THIS LAST PROSPECT AND EXPRESSED HIS UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHETHER THE MINISTRY COULD ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY. HE WAS POLITELY INFORMED THAT DAMAGE TO EMBASSY PROPERTY WAS DAMAGE REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT, THAT DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE WORLDWIDE WAS UNEQUIVOCAL ON THE SUBJECT OF HOST COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE COMMITTED IN THE COURSE OF A DEMONSTRATION, AND THAT THE BILL WOULD SHORTLY BE FORTHCOMING. HE OFFERED NO ASSURANCES.

3. COMMENT: IT WAS ALL VERY FRIENDLY, IF SOMEWHAT INCONCLUSIVE AT THE END. THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IS NEW ON THE JOB (FIVE DAYS AT THE TIME OF THE MEETING) AND IT IS TO BE HOPED HIS COMMENTS ON DAMAGES 'WHICH WILL BE ABOUT \$120) REPRESENTED HIS LACK OF BRIEFING AND INFORMATION RATHER THAN A GOI POLICY DECISION.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: ellisoob
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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